

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 02782 221722Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 /032 W

-----020971 231727Z /53

R 211412Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7210  
USICA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 02782

EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, PINS, GE  
SUBJECT: BEN CHAVIS - BERLIN CONNECTION

1. APRIL 20 "NEUES DEUTSCHLAND" BACK PAGE CARRIED  
PICTURE STORY "SOLIDARITY WITH BEN CHAVIS." OPENING  
PARA READS, "THE PORTRAIT OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS  
FIGHTER REVEREND BEN CHAVIS--IN OUR PHOTOGRAPH BEING  
CARRIED BY DEMONSTRATORS IN FRONT OF THE WHITE  
HOUSE IN WASHINGTON--HAS A SPECIAL HISTORY. TODAY IT  
IS BEING CARRIED BY THE HUNDREDS BY AMERICAN CIVIL  
RIGHTS FIGHTERS IN THEIR ACTIONS FOR THE WILMINGTON  
10. BUT THE PORTRAIT WAS DONE IN BERLIN." STORY  
DESCRIBES HOW PORTRAIT WAS DRAWN BY HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL STUDENT AND PRESENTED TO SISTER OF BEN CHAVIS,  
FRANCINE, WHO IS STUDYING HERE. LATER IT WAS SHOWN  
TO CHAVIS IN PRISON, AND HIS MOTHER OFFERED "HEARTFELT  
THANKS FOR THIS GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY."  
ACCORDING TO PIECE, "THE PORTRAIT APPEARED AS THE  
ARBITRARY SENTENCING OF THE WILMINGTON 10 AROUSED THE  
SHOCK OF THE ENTIRE WORLD. STUDENTS OF HUMBOLDT JOINED  
IN THIS PROTEST."

2. PIECE IS TYPICAL OF EMPHASIS WHICH GDR PRESS GIVES  
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TO ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN U.S., BUT EMPHASIS  
ON "BERLIN CONNECTION" GIVES IT PARTICULAR INTEREST.  
BOLEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BERLIN02782  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780173-0734  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780433/aaaabbie.tel  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** c44c79aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2897877  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BEN CHAVIS - BERLIN CONNECTION  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PINS, SHUM, GC, NEUES DETSCHLAND, (CHAVIS, BEN)  
**To:** STATE ICA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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